

The Woman's Column.

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The Woman's Column.

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ARE WOMEN FEEBLE-MINDED?

A Professor Mobius of Leipzig, of whom most Americans have never heard, but who is described as "one of the most eminent physiologists in Germany," has just published a book entitled "The Physiological Feeble-Mindedness of Women." The professor asserts that women occupy a position midway between men and children. "Their intelligence is receptive, not creative, imitative, not original. Women have not advanced the intellectual life of mankind a single step. Even in their own special branches, such as cooking, tailoring and education, the discoverers of new methods are always men." The professor alleges that the increasing intellectualism among women is dangerous, and tends to bring on sickness, barrenness and blunting of the instinct. It is significant that just about the time Prof. Mobius's book appeared, a "Congress of Progressive Women" was held in Berlin, and passed resolutions in favor of the higher education of women, and also of coeducation.

In America, Professor Mobius's reported remarks against women are being generally ridiculed by the press. As for women's "feeble-mindedness," in the coeducational Universities of the United States the girls take rather more than their share of the prizes; and statistics show that most of them improve in health during their college course. As for women's never inventing any improved methods, the first invention patented by an American woman was in 1808. In the next quarter of a century women took out patents for 15 inventions (including the first cook stove); in the next quarter of a century for 35; in the next quarter of a century for 1503; and in the twelve years from 1884 to 1895, the last period for which we have the figures, women took out patents for 3,905 inventions. If women do not yet invent as often as men, their inventiveness seems to be increasing faster.

Some of women's inventions have been important. Mrs. Ada Van Pelt, the wife of a California postmaster, invented a permutation lock with 3,000 combinations, also a letter-box for the outside of houses that throws up a signal when there is a letter inside for the postman to collect. This is now in use all over the United States. Satchel-bottomed paper bags were invented by a woman, who was offered \$20,000 for the patent. A little girl

originated an invention which revolutionized the making of screws. A woman invented the Burden process, which turns out a perfect horse-shoe in an incredibly short time, and saved the country \$2,500,000 within a few years. Silk-weaving in China and the weaving of Cashmere shawls in India were the inventions of women. As for the charge that education dulls women's instinct, the *Boston Transcript* says:

"It is quite possible that intellectualism does dull instinct. The instinct of a ruffed grouse in the hunting season is much keener and more reliable than that of Professor Mobius at any time, but that has nothing to do with the case. He is still of more value than a whole covey of ruffed grouse."

Some women might say that the truth of the last sentence is open to question.

ALICE STONE BLACKWELL.

A CONNECTICUT REFERENDUM.

The case of Connecticut is a periodical object-lesson on the different reasoning that is used in regard to political representation, according to whether the rights of men or the rights of women are involved.

The people of Connecticut are still living under the old constitution of 1818, and representation is not by population but by towns, so that a little country village has as many representatives in the Legislature as the large city of Hartford. At each legislative session the members from Hartford and New Haven protest against this injustice, and declaim against the government of the majority without their consent, and against taxation without adequate representation. Then, when the woman suffrage bill comes up, they invariably turn around and vote that the women of Connecticut shall continue to be governed and taxed without any representation at all.

Whenever woman suffrage is under discussion, Dr. Lyman Abbott, the *Boston Herald*, and other newspapers and prominent individuals unite in assuring us that political representation is not a right of either men or women; that no question of justice is involved in it; that it is purely a question of expediency, and that the form of government which will produce the best practical results is the one to be chosen. But each year when the case of Connecticut comes up, all this is changed. Dr. Abbott, the *Boston Herald*, and all the other opponents of equal suffrage forget their oft-reiterated assertion that justice has nothing to do with political representation, and denounce in scathing terms the wrongs of Connecticut men. They make no effort to show that the practical results will necessarily be better when the Connecticut Legislature is ruled by the large cities than now when it is ruled by the country towns; they scorn

even to discuss expediency where the justice of the case is so plain.

Constant agitation has finally led to a referendum in Connecticut. Only 42 per cent. of the registered male voters took the trouble to vote either way, but a moderate majority of these voted for the holding of a constitutional convention to revise the old constitution. Six years ago a so-called referendum on woman suffrage was held in Massachusetts. The women who took the trouble to vote on the question voted in favor, 25 to one, but the majority did not vote either way. This has ever since been claimed as a proof that the majority of women were satisfied with the present state of things, and that no change ought to be made. But the fact that the majority of Connecticut men were too indifferent to vote either for or against a change will not lessen the conviction of Dr. Abbott and the other anti-suffragists that in Connecticut a change is imperative, and ought to be made without delay. Truly, consistency is a jewel!—*Woman's Journal*.

MRS. HELEN M. STODDARD has been appointed by Governor Sayers of Texas a Commissioner to locate the State Industrial School for Girls, and her appointment has been confirmed by the Senate. This is the first time a woman has been honored in any such way in Texas. The Commission consists of twelve men and one woman. Texas women, led by Mrs. Stoddard, have worked hard to get this school. The first bill was introduced about ten years ago.

MRS. ROOSEVELT has rented what is known as "The President's Pew" at St. John's Episcopal Church in Washington, for herself and such of her children and visitors as may care to worship there. She was reared in that communion, while her husband belongs to the Dutch Reformed Church, and generally attends it. The difference of religion has never disturbed their perfect domestic harmony. President Roosevelt, who is an avowed believer in woman suffrage, is entirely willing that his wife should call her soul her own, and go to whatever church she pleases.

In the trial of those who were present at the death of a prize-fighter in Lowell, Mass., the other day, most of the witnesses called were policemen. The *Boston Advertiser* says:

It must have been something of a shock to the public to find that these policemen admitted, under cross-examination, that they were members of the club which had arranged the fight, and that they were accustomed to attend such performances as members of the club.

No inferences are drawn that manhood suffrage is a failure in Massachusetts. But only suppose the occurrence had happened in Colorado

MRS. CATT IN VIRGINIA.

In response to a unanimous invitation from the Suffrage Committee of the Virginia Constitutional Convention, Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, and Miss Kate M. Gordon of New Orleans, the National Secretary, went to Virginia, and Mrs. Catt addressed the Committee in behalf of the ballot for women.

The *Richmond Times* says:

The women of Virginia have not the right to vote, but they are, nevertheless, a powerful factor in the public affairs of the State. It has leaked out that females were directly responsible for the unanimous vote by which the Suffrage Committee invited Mrs. Catt to make an address before that body. It was the wonder of all who thought of it, that a body of men, not a single one of whom was in sympathy with what Mrs. Catt would speak for, should have invited her before them, especially when they were crowded with so much important business. It is easily explained, however, when it is stated that some prominent women in the State, who knew Mrs. Catt, induced several of the leading members of the Committee to vote to grant Mr. Hubbard's request. But they went still further. They enlisted the active support of their friends on the Committee, and when the resolution was introduced it received every vote in the Committee. It is probable that the only two woman suffragists in the Convention are Delegates Hubbard and Miller.

Delegate Hubbard is the member of the Constitutional Convention who moved the introduction of a clause in the new constitution to allow the wives, widows, and daughters of Confederate soldiers to vote.

The *Richmond Times* of said:

"Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, of New York, the president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, addressed the Committee on Suffrage of the Constitutional Convention yesterday evening in the hall of the House of Delegates.

"The meeting was a public one, and every seat in the hall was taken, and many persons were standing outside the railings. More than half, perhaps, of those present were ladies, some of them being among the prominent ones of the city.

"Governor Tyler, Attorney-General Montague, and Col. Frank P. Brent were among the distinguished Democratic leaders on the floor. Most of the members of the Suffrage Committee and many other members of the Convention were in their seats.

"Mrs. Catt, accompanied by Miss Kate M. Gordon, national secretary, came into the Convention Hall just before 5 o'clock, and were introduced to a number of ladies and gentlemen by Delegate E. W. Hubbard, of Buckingham.

"Congressman H. D. Flood presided, in the absence of Chairman Daniel, who had a conflicting engagement. He called the Committee to order and introduced Delegate Hubbard, who, in a neat and eloquent speech, presented Mrs. Catt to the audience. He declared himself out and out in favor of woman suffrage, and paid a beautiful tribute to the fair sex. The speaker created great merriment by saying that he was almost ashamed that he was a man, when he thought how

women were being treated on the suffrage question. Mr. Hubbard's remarks were both vigorous and eloquent, and were loudly cheered.

"When Mrs. Catt came forward and bowed her thanks to the Committee, it was some moments before she could proceed for the applause that greeted her. This distinguished woman spoke for exactly one hour, and held the closest attention of her audience, which now and then broke into cheering, as she would bring out some bright point in her remarks.

"Mrs. Catt is a fine-looking woman, under middle age, and she speaks with an ease and fluency which do her great credit. She showed wonderful familiarity with public questions, and dealt with them at times like one fully accustomed to the embarrassments of the forum.

"The speech was an eloquent and scholarly appeal for the incorporation of a woman suffrage clause into the new Constitution of Virginia, and every word of it was listened to with marked attention and pleasure by all."

The *Times* devotes a column to a report of the address, and says: "Mrs. Catt closed her remarks with a peculiarly eloquent peroration, and when she resumed her seat, there was a perfect storm of applause, which was long continued. Members, public men and ladies crowded around the speaker and offered their hands in congratulation.

"Those members of the convention who heard Mrs. Catt in favor of woman's suffrage yesterday evening are highly pleased with her address, though of course she made few, if any, converts to her way of thinking. It was the grace and ability with which the female leader spoke that caught the fancy of her hearers, and her effort was warmly praised on all hands last night. Judge Marshall, who is a fine judge of ability in this line, pronounced the speech one of wonderful force, and such an estimate was heard from many of the members."

The *Richmond Dispatch* likewise devotes much space to a report of the speech, and says:

"Ladies, including many of the best-known names in Richmond society, heard and enjoyed the address.

"Everybody enjoyed it. It was little short of captivating. It may have been convincing. Certain it is, there could not have been found in all the audience a man willing to follow the fair speaker and attempt to make reply to her arguments. For she is essentially argumentative. The people who went expecting to hear emotionalism, or crankism, in speech, were disappointed, for it was only a plain, straightforward presentation of arguments for conferring upon women the right of the ballot.

"So scarce are women in Virginia who want their sex to have the elective franchise that the members expected to see in the speaker a freak in manner and dress, and a woman whose face would reflect all manner of strong-minded opinions. But instead they saw a woman who might easily pass for one of the best of proud old Richmond. She has an expression of womanly sweetness, and her voice is beautifully modulated.

"Although Mrs. Catt was not to speak until 5 o'clock, at 4.30 the ladies began to arrive, and in fifteen minutes the hall was half full and the gallery was almost full. Governor Tyler and several of the ladies of his family were among those in the audience."

MR. FOULKE FOR CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONER.

It is announced that the Hon. William Dudley Foulke of Indianapolis will be the next man appointed on the Civil Service Commission. "Although rich and averse to the cares of public office," says the Washington correspondent of the *Boston Transcript*, "he has consented, as a matter of public-spirited citizenship, to serve President Roosevelt in a cause to which both men have given long support. Mr. Foulke is a Republican, but has never allowed partisan feeling to interfere with his insistence upon the merit system, and is widely known as a sincere and energetic reformer. Mr. Foulke's appointment ought to make an epoch in the history of civil service reform."

Mr. Foulke is interested in more reforms than one. He was president for several years of the American Woman Suffrage Association, and has always been a firm upholder of equal rights for women, bringing ripe scholarship and rare eloquence to aid the cause. His was one of the ablest addresses at the last meeting of the New England W. S. A.

PROGRESS IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Mr. See, the Premier of New South Wales, announces that the bill to give women full Parliamentary suffrage will be re-introduced at the beginning of the next session, and that he is determined to secure its passage before the expiration of the present Parliament. The despatches say: "He considers that, as the people have given a direct mandate on the question, the Legislative Council, in rejecting the bill, obstructed the will of the country."

A few weeks ago, a large and influential deputation of representatives from the different branches of the Womanhood Suffrage League of New South Wales waited on the Premier to urge that the full suffrage bill should be reintroduced as early as possible. Several members of the deputation, both men and women, spoke along this line. A Sydney paper says:

The Premier, in reply, said he was overwhelmed by the magnitude of the deputation, but the task of receiving the ladies was a very agreeable one. The government had a great deal of business before it, and one of the most important measures was that for the enfranchisement of women. Some people who were liberal in other respects never seemed to regard this question as they ought. It was owing to the courageous agitation of a few sensible workers among the women that the movement had reached its present position. He agreed that women were entitled to vote, and a bill would be introduced at the earliest possible moment. It could not, however, be the first, because there were some others which he was pledged to place before the House without delay. It was a pity

that some of the members who were opposed to the bill were not present to witness the representative strength and the intelligence of the deputation. He assured them that the bill would be brought forward the first time when the state of public business would permit. (Cheers.) The deputation gave the Premier a hearty vote of thanks.

THE NEXT FORTNIGHTLY.

The next meeting of the Fortnightly will be held on the afternoon of Tuesday, Oct. 22, in the parlors of the Massachusetts W. S. A., 3 Park Street. The subject to be considered is "Lincoln Memorial University," located at Cumberland Gap, Tenn., and the "Lucy Stone Reading Room" for the girls of the University, which women suffragists propose to furnish. Nearly \$400 are already contributed for this purpose, and donations of books are pledged to its library.

The meeting will be addressed by Mr. T. A. Larry, acting president of the institution, or E. P. Fairfield, financial secretary, who graduated from Oberlin, and was well acquainted with Lucy Stone. It is possible that both gentlemen will be present. The University owns 500 acres of good farm land, seven buildings, machinery for industries, all valued at \$200,000, and has enrolled about 300 students, young men and women. It was founded as a memorial to Abraham Lincoln, and to meet the needs of two million people in the Southern Appalachian Mountains, for whom no educational provision has been made. We hope there may be a large audience, as the subject is most interesting.

MARY A. LIVERMORE, Pres.

CONVERTED BY COLORADO.

At the great mass meeting in the interests of good government lately held in Philadelphia—a meeting so crowded that twenty thousand people were turned away from the doors,—ex-Senator Lewis Emery said:

In casting my eye over this audience I find that there are about as many ladies as there are gentlemen in it. (A voice: "Well, they ought to vote.") I wish they could vote (applause), and just here I want to take up three or four minutes of your time to give my reasons why they should vote.

"I was taken from my home in 1897 a sick man, taken to Colorado Springs, lay on my back for more than four weeks, and finally I was able to rise. My wife ordered a carriage, and she said: 'This is election day in Colorado. I very much desire to go to the several polling places and witness the way in which ladies and gentlemen vote.' We drove to fourteen different polling places, and described a room fifteen or twenty feet square, more or less, carpeted, with chairs set about the walls. The father, the mother, the sister, the brother, the uncle and aunt were there, perhaps the wife a Republican, the husband a Democrat, the father a Republican and the son a Populist, but they were all there.

"Under the constitution of Colorado a woman has an equal right with a man in every particular, and what I witnessed that day in my travels opened my eyes to the necessity of giving the women a chance in Pennsylvania. I am sorry that in the convention of the so-called Union party to-day they did not incorporate in

their resolutions a plank granting the franchise to women in the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. If they had the right to vote, I do not believe that you would be called here to-night to regulate the affairs of the city of Philadelphia.

"No better State exists in the Union than those where the woman has a right to vote. We have three of them (four) and we ought to have more. It is the duty, I believe, of every man and woman to preach to the end that the woman may have the equal right with her husband or her son to vote."

LITERARY NOTICE.

WOMAN AND THE LAW. By George James Bayles, Ph.D., prize lecturer in the school of political science, Columbia University. New York: The Century Co. Price, \$1.40.

This is a book which ought to be bought and kept for reference by every local Woman Suffrage Association and woman's club. The author says in his preface: "This work is designed to serve the purposes of a general view of the legal condition of the women of the United States at the present time, and is more especially for the reading of women. . . . American women, whether studying alone or in clubs, are coming more and more to take an appreciative interest in the sociological development of the nation, and naturally a subject to engage their attention is the condition of their fellow-women viewed from all standpoints." The book aims to give the laws of the different States in regard to the domestic relations of women, including marriage and divorce, the guardianship of children, etc.; the property rights of women, including dower, the right to make wills and contracts, etc.; and the public relations of women, covering the questions of naturalization, suffrage, employment, the age of consent, the right to practise law, etc. An introduction to the book is furnished by Prof. I. F. Russell, of the New York University Law School. He recommends the non-professional study of law as a part of general culture. After sketching the improvement in women's legal position during the last century, he says: "Husbands and fathers seem to covet, if not for their wives, most certainly for their daughters, the fullest measure of immunity from masculine interference and domination. Tendencies apparently irresistible are making for the extension of these rights throughout all the centres of civilization. . . . The education of woman must be commensurate with the splendor of her new heritage of rights and responsibilities, and should be such as to qualify her for the duties of executor, guardian, and trustee, as well as for the ownership of lands or the stocks and bonds of incorporated companies. Woman is thus in need of instruction in the law, not to enable her to be her own lawyer, but to qualify her to appreciate and act upon legal counsel understandingly. If she is to continue to figure as a capitalist, taxpayer, litigant, and perhaps voter, on a more and more liberal scale, she ought certainly to make herself master of the rudiments of legal science." The author says in his preface that there are probably some errors in the book; and, in pointing out a few, we do not mean to disparage a work which is doubtless accurate in the main, and which fills a long-felt want. In the chapter on Woman Suffrage, New Jersey is mentioned as one of the States where women may vote for school officers. The New Jersey Supreme Court set aside as unconstitutional that part of the school suffrage law which empowered women to vote for school officers; but the court upheld as

valid their right to vote on school appropriations. In enumerating the States where women can vote on questions of public improvements that are submitted to taxpayers, no mention is made of the fact that women now possess this right in all the townships of New York State—a curious omission in a work by a New York lawyer.

In the section on the guardianship of children, Illinois and Connecticut should be added to the States that now give fathers and mothers equal guardianship. In Massachusetts, the property laws for married women have just been revolutionized; but as the change only went into effect last July, it is not remarkable that this book should not take note of it. In the section on "Married Women as Witnesses," no mention is made of the fact that in Louisiana women, whether married or single, cannot act as witnesses to a legal document. In the introduction by Prof. Russell, the statement is made that "in this country, apart from voting and holding office, woman labors under no legal disabilities." This is much too sweeping, since in some States (as for instance in California) a married woman is still unable even to control her own earnings. Prof. Russell also says: "A wife's control of her real property is greater than her husband's control of his; for the statutes of New York and many other States forbid a man to dispose of his lands and tenements, by deed or will, in disregard of his wife's right of dower, whereas the fullest liberty of transfer is enjoyed by the married woman." Instead of saying "in New York and many other States," the writer should have said "in New York and a few other States." A glance over the property laws, as set forth in this volume, shows there are only about half a dozen States that have abolished curtesy while retaining dower, thus leaving the wife more free than the husband to dispose of real estate. In most States either dower and curtesy have both been abolished, leaving husband and wife equally free, or dower and curtesy have both been retained, in which case the wife is generally less free to dispose of real estate than the husband. It is therefore an error to assert as a general statement that "a wife's control of her real property is greater than her husband's control of his," when this is the case in only a small fraction of the 45 States. The value of the book would be increased if it gave in regard to each State not only the wife's rights in her husband's property, but the husband's rights in his wife's. The latter are sometimes omitted. But, in spite of some errors and omissions, this work is the most valuable contribution that has been made for a long time to a topic of great and growing interest.

MISS MARY B. SAYLES, of the class of 1900 at Smith College, has been chosen out of thirty candidates for the fellowship offered by the College Settlement Association last spring. Miss Sayles will live at Whittier Home, the only college settlement in Jersey City. Her specialty will be the investigation of tenement-house conditions.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE TRACTS.

Tracts for use in debate, forty different kinds, postpaid, for 10 cents. These 1 sheets include speeches by Secretary John D. Long, Clara Barton, Hon. Geo. F. Hoar, Frances Willard, and others, as well as valuable testimony from States which have woman suffrage. Address Leadet Department, M W. S. A., 3 Park St., Boston, Mass.

MRS. LIVERMORE was present at the annual convention of the Massachusetts W. C. T. U., held this week in Lynn, and was enthusiastically received. The reports show a gain in membership of 578 over last year. Fifteen new unions have been formed, and 151 of the old ones have increased their membership.

MRS. CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT, in her recent address before the Virginia Constitutional Convention in behalf of woman's ballot, said Gov. Thomas of Colorado (a Virginian) had told her that he thought women had not lost but had gained by having the right of suffrage. He said: "They have now a delightful individuality that is seldom possessed by women who cannot vote."

A despatch from Brussels says that at a meeting of Socialists, attended by delegates from all Belgium, a resolution was passed in favor of the political equality of the sexes, but postponing the demand for universal suffrage for women until it is secured for men. The Labor party, however, adheres to its programme, which includes suffrage for both sexes in the communal and provincial elections.

It is reported that twenty-four persons were killed and hundreds injured during the Hungarian election riots last week. "At Eiszehaly, the troops fired upon the rioters, killing a man and three women. In various places voters were coerced by threats of death or torture. At Udurassa, a prominent politician, together with his wife and three sons, was murdered by his fanatical opponents." If these incidents had happened in Wyoming, they would have been claimed as conclusive arguments against equal suffrage; but none of the American papers comment on them as a proof of the unfitness of men to vote.

A dispatch from Christiania, Norway, says: "The privilege recently granted women to vote for, and sit in, municipal councils in Norway is adding unusual interest to the approaching elections. The women's battle-cry is: 'Away with politicians; only men and women who further social reform to the front!' Conservatives and Liberals are trying to induce the women to vote for their candidates, but even in the smallest towns the women insist upon their right to pick the best men of both parties and to support the women candidates. The men are greatly disturbed, and do not know how to vote."

HARRIET TUBMAN, the remarkable colored woman commonly known as "Moses," who at the peril of her life guided more than 300 slaves to free soil, and afterwards rendered invaluable service as spy, scout and hospital nurse for the Union army, is in danger of losing her little home at Auburn, N. Y. Since the war, she has made her home a refuge for old people of her race and for orphans, giving up her own comfort for their sake. Only \$1,700 is needed to save her home from foreclosure of mortgage. The place is worth more than \$6,000. It is desired to present her the canceled mortgage as a Christmas gift. She wants to leave her home to aged Negro men and women. Let the small sum needed be raised forthwith. All checks should be made payable to Harriet Tubman, and addressed to C. A. Smith, Auburn, N. Y.

MISS LONG ON SUFFRAGE.

Secretary of the Navy Long will have the sympathy of a wide circle of friends in the loss of his beautiful and gifted daughter Helen, who has just died of consumption at her father's home in Hingham, Mass., after three years spent in Colorado in a vain search for health.

Miss Long and her mother and sister voted for President McKinley last November. They were then living at Colorado Springs. In answer to an inquiry from the College Equal Suffrage League as to the practical workings of woman suffrage, Miss Long wrote:

"The women of Colorado are a power in State politics. They always cast their votes for the candidate of highest principle and best moral character. The women who vote in Colorado are the educated and refined women, and they, with many men who originally voted against extending the suffrage, admit that it is a success."

WOMAN SUFFRAGISTS REJOICE.

Mrs. Laura Ormiston Chant was the speaker at the opening Fortnightly of the Massachusetts W. S. A. The parlors were crowded; extra chairs were brought in, and many stood throughout the lecture.

Mrs. Livermore presided. The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That we rejoice in the announcement by the prime minister of Denmark that municipal suffrage for women will be the first reform introduced by the new cabinet; in the passage of the full suffrage bill to its third reading in the parliament of Federated Australia, and in the fact that a representative of the Sociological Society of Belgium has been sent to our Western States to investigate equal suffrage and has gone home converted.

That this Association renews its petition to the Legislature for a law making fathers and mothers joint guardians of their children.

Whereas, Miss Stone, an American missionary, has been captured and held for ransom by brigands in Bulgaria;

Resolved, That we call attention to the inconsistency of those who urge women to go as missionaries to remote and dangerous countries, yet object to a woman's going five minutes' walk to the ballot box on the ground that her place is at home.

Mrs. Chant gave an interesting and picturesque account of her thrilling experiences in Crete.

MRS. BRADFORD IN MAINE.

The 21st annual meeting of the Maine W. S. A. was held with the Old Orchard Equal Suffrage Club, one of the youngest of the auxiliary clubs, and one of the most enthusiastic.

Everything that could be done for the comfort of the guests was done. The pretty Methodist Church where the meetings were held was bright with autumn flowers, among which the symbolic sunflower was prominent. Flags were draped across the pulpit recess, and the great seal of the State occupied a conspicuous place. Dinner was served to the delegates, a golden pumpkin filled with flowers serving as a centre piece.

The event of the convention was the address on Thursday evening by Mrs. Mary C. C. Bradford, of Denver. A brilliant, forceful, and magnetic speaker, with a charming personality, Mrs. Bradford carried the house by the magnificent sweep of her eloquent arguments.

She explained the methods by which the women of Colorado turned the primaries into receptions, and substituted flowers and flags for smoke and tobacco juice. Clean polling places, closed saloons, Sunday quiet on election day, have been among the results of admitting women to what she calls the sacrament of citizenship. Instead of caucuses being held in the back rooms of disreputable saloons, where hardly a respectable man would go, they are now held in the homes of the best people in the precinct, and are attended by the best men and women of the district.

There were frequent bursts of applause, and at the close there was an ovation to the little voter from the "crest of the continent."

ETTA H. OSGOOD.

TWO GENEROUS OFFERS.

Miss Annie S. Peck, the well-known mountain climber, offers to give her fine illustrated lecture on the ascent of the Matterhorn for any Suffrage League, for her expenses and half the profits, or, if preferred, for \$25. As Miss Peck generally receives \$50 or \$75 per lecture, this offer is liberal. She may be addressed care Redpath Lyceum Bureau, Boston.

Mrs. Abby Morton Diaz generously offers to give any one of her lectures, or a humorous reading from her "William Henry Letters" or "The Bybury Book," for her expenses, for any Suffrage League that will make the local arrangements. She may be addressed at Belmont, Mass.

A WOMAN POLITICIAN.

At a legislative hearing on woman suffrage held in Boston this year, Mrs. Barrett Wendell read a paper by Miss Mary E. Corbett, a woman lawyer, who objected to equal suffrage on the ground that disaster must result if women were allowed to follow "all the vocations of men." Now the same Miss Corbett, who is a school teacher as well as a lawyer, has been the subject of a lively scandal in the Boston school board. Certain members of the board have been pushing her appointment (by "underhanded and unworthy methods, it is alleged) as first assistant in a new school in Charlestown, where she does not reside, over the heads of deserving teachers in that district, and against the wishes of the master. The scheme has failed, Mrs. Duff, aided on the board by Mr. Ernst and Miss Anna Barrows, having succeeded in blocking it. The *Boston Herald*, which gave nearly two columns to the case, describes Miss Corbett as "a lawyer, and a politician of considerable activity." Why is it that the women who come up to the State House to oppose women's going into politics are so apt to be in politics themselves?—*Woman's Journal*.

Rev. Dr. A. L. Hazlett of Colorado Springs, Col., has sailed from San Francisco for Manila on the army transport *Thomas*. It is said that he goes to the islands under the sanction of the War Department as a commissioner to investigate charges of immorality in the military camps.